

Remarks

The Applicant respectfully requests entry of the above amendments, and consideration of the application, as amended.

By the above amendment, the Applicant cancelled claims 1-12, 18, 21, and 22 to cancel all the rejected claims and leaving allowed claims 17 and 20 pending. Claims 13-16, 19, 23, and 24 were amended to depend from allowed claims 17 and 20. New claims 25-30, reciting limitations of the cancelled claims, were introduced.

Claims 13-17, 19, 20, and 23-30 are now pending in this application.

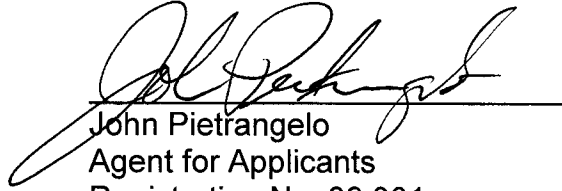
By the above amendment, the Applicant does not acquiesce to the rejections presented in the above referenced Office Action which the Applicant believes are unfounded, but reserves the right to pursue one or more of the cancelled claims through one or more divisional applications, if desired.

Conclusion

The Applicant believes that the above Amendment places the application in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action on the merits of the application is requested.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, Applicants' undersigned Agent invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,


John Pietrangelo
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 39,331

Dated: January 18, 2007

HESLIN ROTHENBERG FARLEY & MESITI P.C.

5 Columbia Circle

Albany, New York 12203-5160

Telephone: (518) 452-5600

Facsimile: (518) 452-5579